

Hurricane Katrina Update New Direction

Inside This Issue

This is a Newsletter of the SPAWAR Systems Center New Orleans

SSC NOLA After Katrina

NMCI Support of Displaced Workers

Katrina Storm Stories

Dave Bonar
Hellen Pounds
Ann Jones
Patrick O'Brien
Gregory Woodall

SSC NOLA Personnel Become Black Belt Certified

Important Numbers and Web Sites

SSC NOLA Facility Update

Resource Information

If you have information or photos you'd like to submit for consideration in the newsletter please send to maria.tolleson@navy.mil or mstolleson@yahoo.com

Pensacola Hosts SSC NOLA

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer

Still bearing the scars of Hurricane Ivan in 2004, the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida knew what it meant to be an organization in turmoil. So when the SSC New Orleans leadership began looking for a place for members of the command to operate from, NETC rolled out the red carpet.

"We asked them how many employees they could accommodate, and they said how many do you have," said CDR Paul Treutel, Executive Officer for SSC New Orleans.

More than 80 employees are relocated to the Naval Air Station Pensacola site. This includes the executive officer and executive secretary, legal advisor, the comptroller's department, the contracting office, the administrative division, and the NMCI (Navy Marine Corps Intranet) support function.

These departments are working out of NETC spaces. Located within Naval Education Training Professional Development Technology Center (NETPDTC) Continuity of Operation (COOP) spaces are personnel from various programs to include JASS Career Management System (JCMS), Reserve Information Management System (RIMS), Navy Training Reservation System (NTRS), and the Navy Enlisted System (NES). Additionally, the NMPDS Legacy Systems and PERSIS Legacy Systems are being supported from the NETPDTC site.

"Our personnel began to report to Pensacola on September 7, and thanks to the involvement of Mr. Jim Bouzios of NETC and others, we were able to quickly secure office space, NMCI support and telephone hook-ups," Treutel said. "He gave us unlimited support in

[Continued](#)

SSC NOLA After Katrina



Photo provided by Lucy Colangione, Director of Security, SSC New Orleans

This photograph was shot within days after Hurricane Katrina made landfall. SSC New Orleans personnel returned to the city via helicopter to assess and document the damage to the buildings.

Important Numbers and Web Sites

- ✍ Navy Global Distance Support Center (to update your location and contact information), 1-877-418-6824, Option 2 or www.anchordesk.navy.mil
- ✍ BUPERS 24-hour Helpline, 1-877-414-5358
- ✍ Safe Haven Orders, 1-866-239-0303
- ✍ 24-hour Support Hotline, 1-800-677-5327
- ✍ SSC NOLA Executive Officer, 1-850-452-5810
- ✍ Per Diem Rates <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/perdiemrates.html>
- ✍ FEMA, 1-800-621-3362 or www.fema.gov
- ✍ Red Cross, www.redcross.org
- ✍ DOD Civilian Personnel Management Service: Hurricane Information for DOD Civilian Employees and Annuitants, <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/hurricaneinfo/index.htm>
- ✍ Civilian Employee Assistance Program, 1-800-677-LEAP
- ✍ Federal Tax Relief, www.irs.gov, select "help for hurricane victims"

This is a publication produced by the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Systems Center New Orleans' Public Affairs Office located at 2251 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, LA 70145. The content of this publication does not reflect the views, opinions, or policies of the Department of the Navy or the Department of Defense.

Storm Story: Dave Bonar Katrina Helps Bond Father and Son

This past summer my son Jim made a choice after his sophomore year in high school to move from Georgia to Marrero, leaving his younger sister and his mother to go live with Dad. He and I did not realize that this period of adjustment would also include a "Katrina" adventure.

When Mayor Nagin pleaded on TV for everyone to leave, since this was going to be the big one that everyone had feared, I agreed with Jim that we would visit his friend Daniel in Dallas for what we thought would just be a few days.

As we were preparing to leave our home in Marrero, it is our custom to pray for safe traveling. Instead of waiting to be in the car, my choice was to pray in the living room that we would have a home to come back to, and if not, that we could accept that fact. After finishing, I asked Jim if there was anything else he might want to take in case the house was not spared. He disappeared into his bedroom and came back with two large shoeboxes. He saw the question on my face and said, "They aren't shoes, Dad. This is my comic book collection. They'll be valuable one day." I just had to chuckle at their importance to him.

After Katrina, as we sat in his friend's one bedroom apartment watching events unfold, I realized we would not be able to return immediately, and I didn't know quite what to do next. I apologized to our host and said that I didn't know where to go. He said, "Mr. Dave, there are thousands of people out there wanting to help Katrina victims who can't. Here I can help two victims directly. You can stay here. I am blessed to have the opportunity to help." Thus began our saga of renting and temporarily living in Irving, Texas.

The next week Jim enrolled in Irving High School. The second day there a girl walked up to him and said, "Are you the hot new guy from New Orleans?" So much for my worries about his self esteem in a new place. His reception at school provided a built in solution.

[Continued](#)

Storm Story: Hellen Pounds Leaves Katrina to go into the Teeth of Rita

Before Katrina, I lived in Slidell. I evacuated to Willis, Texas where my brother lives. Normally I evacuate early, but this time I didn't due to not enough notice and some of my cats got too scared to catch and take along. I did not ride out the storm, but for those of us who left, the experience was not exactly pleasant. If you left loved ones behind, and I did, you were constantly worried for their safety, and you could not get current or good information about what was going on at home.

I came home early on September 2. Slidell was a combination of a ghost town and an obstacle course, but I managed to reach my house. My house was still standing, not too much outside damage, some roof, gutter and trim damage. But inside was another story. First came the smell, like something out of a sewer. The inside was another obstacle course. Things which were so heavy that you did not think they would float had floated. Things from the kitchen were in the living room or hallway; things from the living room were in the kitchen or hallway. I had to force the door open, and then move things just to get inside. You could not stay inside for long. I rescued most of my cats and took them to a friend in Baton Rouge. I thought two of them had escaped. I could not find a place to stay, so I went back to Willis.

Then I got notice that my two cats had been sighted in the house. I came back to Slidell on September 7th and finally caught the two holdouts. At first, I did not think I would be able to find a place to stay, but I did, in Holden, Louisiana. After that, I drove back and forth to Slidell every day, until I found someone to clean out my house and cut out the walls, up to four feet.

[Continued](#)

Update: SSC NOLA Trailer Park

Nine work trailers have been set up in the front parking lot of the SSC New Orleans buildings to accommodate employees who will be working out of the facility until the restoration is complete. The matter of who will be working from the trailers is contingent upon available space, having a home to re-



turn to, and meaningful work to perform at the site, but it will be a combination of administrative and technical personnel. The SSC New Orleans restoration crew will occupy one trailer, and security personnel will occupy a trailer set apart nearer to the gate entrance. There will be 8 to 10 employees in each of the Spartan trailers. Utilities have been connected, but they still await NMCI connectivity. Each has a restroom facility, and will have desks, a microwave and a refrigerator, as the area is still without an infrastructure and there are no eating establishments open in the vicinity.

Bonar Katrina Story (continued)

Drama was one of the classes he had enrolled in, and they were casting for a new play. His teacher saw possibilities in Jim and reopened the casting call and got him to try for the lead part in the play, "Murder's Bad But Monday Can Kill You," playing Harry Monday in a murder-comedy two act play set in a 'nut' house living room. He got the part.

Jim liked Irving so much he really wanted to stay, and if it had been possible, I would like to have stayed also, but I didn't see how we could do it with all the factors in-

involved. He liked it so much that he ordered his high school ring from Irving after shunning getting one from Georgia, where he'd been, and getting one from New Orleans, where he would be returning. That says how much he liked Irving and Irving High School.

Our time in Irving was an excellent time for father and son bonding. We had missed that for the past eight years. The silver lining to our Katrina cloud was that it provided an excellent opportunity for my son and me to get to know each other in spite of the difficulties that we experienced. For

that experience, I am in awe, and I am very thankful.

We suffered some damage, but others have suffered much worse. We are thankful it was not worse for us. The Thursday after Katrina, it really hit me hard. Only by working was I able to keep sane. And when I started moving stuff back, it was startling to deal with the reality of it. Everything seems to be okay now, but I sure do miss the big oak tree in my front yard.

Dave Bonar
IMAPMIS RCCPDC Administrator

Pensacola (continued)

establishing ourselves as a command section. NETC was very accommodating. They realigned departmental office spaces so that SSC NOLA personnel could have contiguous workspaces." Mr. Bouzios is NETC N8 and was at that time the Deputy CIO for Manpower Personnel Training and Education (MPT&E).

The leadership sought to relocate to Pensacola for a multitude of reasons, including the presence of NETC, the proximity to New Orleans, and SSC New Orleans' alignment with NETC in the MPT&E organization. While it wasn't a pre-planned move, it proved to be a good fit, Treutel said.

NETC, one of the largest Navy shore commands, is headed by Vice Admiral J. Kevin Moran. The command is responsible for the training and education of all Navy and Marine Corps personnel worldwide. NETPDTC is one of NETC's subordinate commands and is located 10 miles north of the base at Saufley Field, a tenant of NAS Pensacola.

Some of the SSC New Orleans workforce is working on NMCI machines that were removed from the damaged SSC New Orleans buildings in the days immediately after Katrina hit. Treutel loaded as many NMCI laptops and desktops the NETC Navy van could carry and drove them from the harsh SSC New Orleans environment to Pensacola for re-

deployment.

Others are still awaiting their equipment, among them the nine personnel of the Administrative Division under the direction of William Anderson, Administrative Division Manager.

"Work spaces are limited, and we're still awaiting the rest of our NMCI computers," he said. "So we're sharing the four that we do have. Mail is arriving and is being distributed to our sites in Fort Worth, Millington, Washington, Pensacola, and New Orleans. We're also now responsible for the Safe Haven travel vouchers. Most of us are working long hours to allow us to return to our homes on the weekend so we can continue the healing and rebuilding process."

The Contracting Department faced some especially serious challenges during the hurricane and its aftermath. With the award of a letter contract to Science and Engineering Associates (SEA) to act as a bridge until the new Systems Engineering and Technical Assistance (SETA) solicitation is awarded; task orders to put in place for the Business, Operations, and Administrative Support Services (BOASS) contract and the letter contract; and the end of the fiscal year, Ed Wallace, Contracting Officer, found himself short-staffed and hard-pressed to accomplish everything. At the end of the fiscal year, Wallace only had two employees working.

"I now have five of seven people working here at Pensacola," Wallace said. "The first to arrive was in mid-September. By mid-October I had all but two here, and they're working from home."

Wallace also had a new hire he had to in-process who had been scheduled to begin working in the Contracting Office the Monday the hurricane hit. "That was a challenge getting her on board with the human resources function not up to speed," he said.

His staff is also sharing computers and is working in close quarters, but they are fully functional and are doing purchase cards for large purchases.

"We don't have a lot of the nice-to-haves, but we're able to follow all of the procedures," he said.

Wallace's two biggest lessons-learned was the need to scan all documents into a database which can be accessed online from a secure website, and the need to have a central land-line number through which to communicate with his department.

"We had a chance to get some documents from the buildings right after the hurricane, but we only had fifteen minutes, so it was like a mad supermarket dash," he said. "We had a lot of the bigger contracts scanned, but we didn't have all of the smaller purchases scanned."

Wallace credits the SPAWAR HQ

[Continued](#)

Pensacola (continued)

Comptroller, SPAWAR San Diego Detachment, SPAWAR Charleston, and NETC with coming to his aid and handling many of the small purchase card items. "We got a lot of help from outside the command," he said. "A lot of people deserve credit for that. We all worked together as one big team."

For the JCMS Program, Hurricane Katrina bought a realization of the importance of this program to the sailor. Prior to the hurricane, the JCMS customer had not required that the system be COOPed, and for several weeks after the storm, the system was down. A network needed to be established in Ft. Worth, Texas and SUN Microsystems loaned the servers needed to bring up production. Since then new servers have been purchased. Other production, test and development servers had to be retrieved from the SSC New Orleans buildings and sent to Ft. Worth and Pensacola. The team, along with the Commander Navy Reserve Force (COMNAVRESFOR) Ft. Worth team and the NETPDTC team worked diligently to restore the system.

"We had to get the production server up at Fort Worth," said Kathy Bailey, JCMS Program Manager. "And we needed to find our developers a location to work from where they would have access to those servers. The system was brought up as a test site first, before going live sometime in mid-October. It wasn't a perfect process, nor was it easy restoring the system from the back-up tapes, but our SSC folks in Fort Worth, and CDR Sam Sumwalt, ITCS Dan Cain, and their team from CNRF bent over backwards to set the network up for us."

Bailey and four other developers are working out of the NETPDTC COOP site at NAS Pensacola. Two team members are working out of Fort Worth, one individual is working out of Millington, and one individual is telecommuting.

"Everyone has been extremely patient and supportive during this process," Bailey said. "They were primarily concerned about us and our families. To them the test deadlines were secondary. But now we're fully functional and continuing the

Sea Warrior Afloat Spiral One development."

Bailey does see a silver lining in the recent ordeal. "We would have had to come to Pensacola anyway for the functional test because the Afloat test servers are located at Saufley Field. Being here will make that easier."

Now that the servers are in place at Fort Worth they will remain there as a COOP site for JCMS, she said.

The servers for MEASURES (Metrology Automated System for Uniform Recall and Reporting), a legacy metrology and calibration system for NAVAIR were also retrieved from the New Orleans facility. "There are six of us working in Pensacola to support MEASURES," said Dale Brown, N321 Division Manager. "The servers themselves are at Fort Worth."

According to Larry Hoehn, Active Duty Systems Division Head, the servers for the NMPDS, PERSIS and NTRS legacy systems were located in Mechanicsburg and Chambersburg, Pennsylvania enabling the systems to continue running. "All we had to do was relocate the bodies," he said. "RIMS production runs on the east and west coasts. We're still waiting for the servers we retrieved from the New Orleans facility to be connected in Fort Worth."

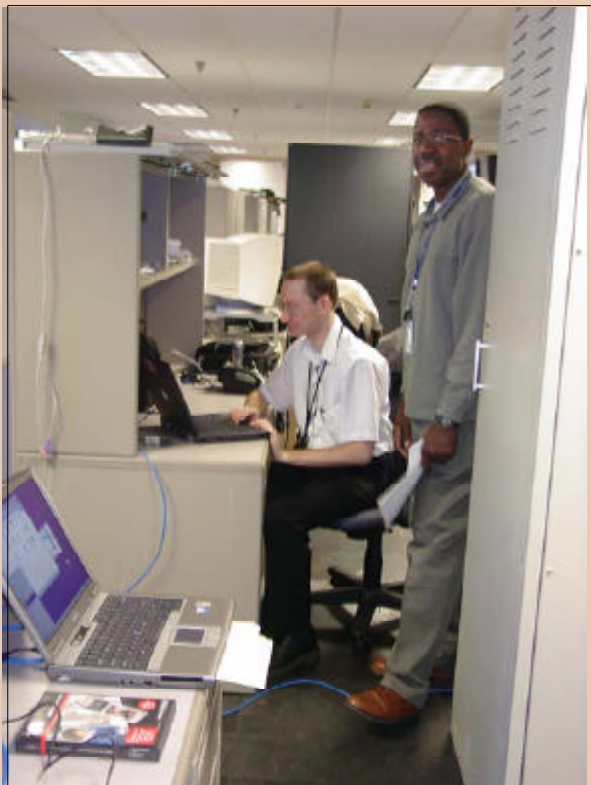
While the day-to-day mission of SSC New Orleans is being performed at sites throughout the U.S., a three-man team working at Saufley field has the specific responsibility to work on the reconstitution of the New Orleans facility operations floor to encompass an enterprise-wide continuity of operations design. Their mission focuses on how best to return these programs and operations back home.

Once the work trailers are set up in the SSC New Orleans facility parking lot, some of the departments currently working out of NAS Pensacola will relocate back to New Orleans. While some employees have concerns about being uprooted again, many are eager to return to the city. Even in its wounded state, a return to the Big Easy is a step back toward normalcy.

NMCI Support On the Way for Displaced Workers

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson,
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer

Charles Warren (seated) and Lee Craft (standing) are working out of the Port facility at Poland and Dauphine in New Orleans staging temporary NMCI laptops for displaced personnel who have no means of communicating from their Safe Haven locations or who are telecommuting from home. Laptops are being shipped to the Millington, Tennessee; Fort Worth, Texas; and Pensacola, Florida alternate worksites. All other laptops have to be picked up from the Port itself. Warren, an NMCI Customer Service Representative, and Craft, an N10 NMCI Customer Liaison are working in the old NSIPS (Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System) space from the command's NRISO (Naval Reserve Information Systems Office) days.



Storm Story: Gregory Woodall An Odyssey that Begins on a Mattress and Ends in North Carolina

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer

Gregory Woodall had never before evacuated for a hurricane, but after Hurricane Katrina which compelled him to float out of his neighborhood on a mattress to get to safety, he said next time he'll get out ahead of the storm.

As Katrina roared ashore Woodall rode out the hurricane in his downstairs apartment off of Robert E. Lee Blvd. near the University of New Orleans (UNO). He had lost power, but didn't think too much of it. The streets had not flooded, and he figured in a few days all would be back to normal. An early riser, the morning after landfall, he awoke to find water racing down the street. Later as the water began to rise, so did his concern.

"When I couldn't see the grass anymore I began to put stuff into a duffel bag and into the tops of closets," he said. "The water wasn't working, so I also began to pack bottled water and Gatorade." When he stepped back onto the porch he felt something on him and saw dozens of spiders seeking refuge from the rising waters. He swept them off of the porch and sprayed the door sill with poison, still not realizing the seriousness of the situation.

"I wasn't thinking straight," he said. "I started freaking out. The water was rising faster, and I figured it was coming from the London Canal."

He stashed his duffel bag and beverages onto the second floor porch of an upstairs neighbor and returned to lifting things up onto kitchen counters. But when the water rose to chest level, he knew it was time to go.

"I had an air mattress in a closet so I went down into the water to get it, and I blew it up on the neighbor's porch," he said. "Then I got my duffel bag and stuff and swam out on the air mattress over to the dry side of UNO."

[Continued](#)

Storm Story: Ann Jones Community Service Runs in the Family

Here is my storm story. It is dry and boring compared to many, but dry and boring are good things these days. I evacuated early and stayed with my parents in Bossier City, Louisiana. It was nice visiting my parents, but I did not expect to stay 7 ½ weeks. I volunteered some at the Hirsch Memorial Coliseum Red Cross Shelter in Social Services, Computer Services, and as needed. I left in a hurry, and left my apartment in a mess. It was nasty when I got back, but the worst was the petrified bananas. I had no damage and no mold. I put most of my belongings in storage since I thought I would be working out of state for a few months. I am now living in my Metairie apartment and am working in leased contractor space in Luling, Louisiana. I am taking the opportunity to redecorate the apartment while my stuff is away.

After the hurricane, I am more thankful for what I have, and I feel closer to my friends and family. I am also more concerned about my personal safety and have been eating more sardines than usual. I have been experiencing "Katrina Brain" (forgetfulness), and have lost weight on the "Katrina Diet." Everyday life is more challenging now. I am especially proud of my oldest sister who works at Women's and Children's Hospital in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. All of the new moms and babies and sick infants were sent there for triage when they were evacuated after the storm. Communications were poor, and they did not know when the helicopters were coming or how many patients to expect in each one. She had to run up seven flights of stairs every time they heard a helicopter.

She worked regular hours at the hospital, and also volunteered at the LSU Peter Maravich Assembly Center with her husband in her spare time. The LSU Stadium and Assembly Center were being used as hospitals for injured and sick storm evacuees. There were doctors there from every state. There were doctors who weren't sure they wanted to eat the etouffee that was prepared for them and my sister told them she would eat their share. In the evenings, she would call and let us know what was really happening in South Louisiana.

Ann Jones
RSTARS (HP) and RHS

Storm Story: Patrick O'Brien Millington is Looking Real Good

Patrick O'Brien from Kenner evacuated the city and went to Columbus, Ohio to stay with his younger brother. The experience he said, was surreal.

"I was acting like it was just a vacation but at the same time seeing the devastation on TV and the web would bring me back to reality," he said. "One of the positives of the whole experience was the time I got to spend with my 5 year old nephew who I've only seen a few times in the past couple of years."

When he returned home, he found that his apartment had survived the storm but the building was severely damaged. "I got to go back the first week of October and the smell from the refrigerator was pretty bad," he said. "I decided to move out of the apartment because of the damage to the building. I was able to get everything out of the apartment by October 22."

O'Brien is now living in Germantown, Tennessee and working on TFARs at NAVMAC in Millington, Tennessee. He says the experience has made him very apprehensive about returning to the New Orleans area.

"If I had a choice about going back I would not go back," he said. "I would stay here in Millington to work."

Patrick O'Brien
TFAR

Woodall Katrina Story (continued)

When he arrived to the quad area in front of the UNO Library he saw that many other people were being dropped off there after being rescued by the fire department. He could tell some of them had been surprised in their beds. "They looked like hell," he said. "Some still had pajamas on. At least I had grabbed some documents and identification and some clothes."

He saw one guy he recognized as a fellow SSC New Orleans employee who had been badly burned. He was later medically evacuated, but for the most part the helicopters were only doing drop-offs.

"There was no food or water and things were getting yucky," he said. "There were no bathroom facilities and people were relieving themselves in the bushes."

After two days he and a group of people struck off in the direction of the Lakefront Airport where they had seen a steady stream of helicopters flying back and forth.

"We walked right in front of our buildings," he said. "There didn't appear to be any water, but near the Ted Hickey Bridge there was a lot of muck, and I lost my shoes."

When he arrived at the Lakefront Airport it was after dark, and the helicopters were only taking people out during daylight, so he spent another night outdoors on the tarmac.

"But things were a lot better there," he said. "There was water and MRE's. There was a firetruck there, and what I thought were cops, but they were dressed in black, and they were keeping things in order."

By mid-morning of the third day of his ordeal the helicopters began to land at the airport six at a time. People were catego-

rized according to need and priority – the ill, the elderly, people with young children. He was loaded onto a helicopter and flown to the New Orleans Louis Armstrong International Airport in Kenner. He spent eight hours in line there slowly making his way onto an Air Force C-17 cargo aircraft.

From there Woodall was flown to Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas and then bussed to a Red Cross camp nearby. It was there that he ran into another SSC New Orleans employee, Rene Petersen and his wife. It was there that he also had his first hot meal in five days.

"They could have fed me anything; I didn't care," he said. "It was hot and it was good."

"They looked like hell. Some still had pajamas on. At least I had grabbed some documents and identification and some clothes."

As other evacuees began to arrive he saw that these arrivals weren't particularly grateful for their new provisions.

"They were vandalizing the camp and setting off fire alarms," he said. "That's when Rene and his wife and I jumped a cab to the Greyhound bus station to get a bus going north."

Petersen and his wife disembarked in Dallas, Texas where they had family, and Woodall continued up to North Carolina – the fulfillment of a promise to a frantic mother who'd he finally gotten in touch with in San Antonio, Texas.

"She hadn't heard from me in days," he said, "and she was watching TV and they were saying there were going to be 10,000 people dead. She made me swear that I would go up to North Carolina."

He slept for most of the ride, tired and in need of a bath, but enjoying the air-conditioning. He stayed with his family for five weeks before returning to New Orleans to get back to work.

"A benefactor has given me all new clothes, and I knew someone who had an apartment building. I called from North Carolina and begged him to save me an apartment," he said. "When I got back there was a key waiting for me."

He now lives in former slave quarters in a small one-bedroom apartment behind a house on St. Charles.

"It's about 900-square feet," he said. "It's small, but it's nice. I'm not complaining about anything these days."

Woodall, who previously worked in Information Technology Operations is temporarily reassigned to the Reconstruction Team. They have been pulling machines off of the Operations Floor and palletizing them for cleaning, salvaging and the data migration.

"We're not going to get back to the routine we had before until we roll up our sleeves and do something about it," he said. "This place isn't going to fix itself. I'm here everyday doing whatever needs to be done."

Woodall may have resolved that he will evacuate the next time a hurricane puts a bead on the Big City, but he isn't going to stay away. He considers himself a fighter.

"I'm not backing down from this," he said. "A little storm? A little high water? I've never backed down from a fight."

Resource Information in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

Information was valid as of November 29, 2005

Military Health Care

East Bank – Walk-ins for Military Personnel 0730-1600
Belle Chasse – By Appt: 877-879-1621, Time of Operations: 0730-1600
Medical Inquiries: 678-3660
Tricare: 800-444-5445
Pharmacy: Located at Belle Chasse Clinic

Note for Prim Care Standard: Pharmacy will fill prescriptions only with a valid prescription [medical care not available for Prim Care Standard patients]

Local Hospitals

Jefferson Parish

Marrero:

Advance Care Hospital (LTAC)
West Jefferson Medical Center (ACUTE)

Metairie:

East Jefferson General Hospital
Omega Hospital (ACUTE)
Select Specialty Hospital (LTAC)
Lakeside Hospital - Tulane (ACUTE) emergency department and limited inpatient beds

Kenner:

Kenner Regional Medical Center (ACUTE) emergency and limited inpatient beds

Gretna:

Meadowcrest Hospital (ACUTE) staging area

Orleans Parish

New Orleans:

Children's Hospital (Women/Children)
Ochsner Clinic Foundation (ACUTE)
River Oaks Hospital/ River Oaks Child and Adolescent Hospital (PSYCH)
St. Charles Specialty Hospital (LTAC)
St. John's Rehabilitation Hospital (REHAB)
Touro Infirmary (ACUTE) - emergency department and limited inpatient beds

St. Tammany Parish

Slidell:

Doctors Hospital of Slidell (ACUTE)
NorthShore Regional Medical Center
Slidell Memorial Hospital and Medical Center (ACUTE)
Southern Surgical Hospital

Covington:

Fairway Medical Center (ACUTE)
Gulf States LTAC of Covington (LTAC)
Greenbrier Hospital (PSYCH)
Lakeview Regional Medical Center (ACUTE)
Regency Hospital of Covington (LTAC)

St. Tammany Parish Hospital

Lacombe:

Louisiana Heart Hospital (ACUTE)

Mandeville:

Southeast Louisiana Hospital PSYCH

Pounds Katrina Story (continued)

Then, I had to evacuate for Rita, but Rita hit Willis too - just not as hard as Katrina.

I am still living in Slidell at my house, in a camper-sized RV. It's about the size of my work cube at work with not as much floor space. Since October 27, I have also been working in my RV.

Katrina has put my life on hold. My cats are living with my brother in Willis and my sister, in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. Like everyone else who cannot do the physical work themselves, I am having trouble getting things done, but even worse than that, is the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) stuff. With limited TV reception, I don't get enough news, so some of what I get is 'grapevine', and most of the grapevine is negative. Like 'don't fix up your house, FEMA won't approve it for this area and you'll just be spending your money for nothing'. What little news I do get tends to confirm the 'grapevine news'. Today, from my window as I work, I saw FEMA people surveying the neighborhood. I'm not sure why, but it may be related to the 'demolish the neighborhood' rumor.

Sorry to be so long, but this is the 'tip of the iceberg' summary. The details are too much to think about.

Hellen Pounds
N23, Sea Warrior

[Continued](#)

[Return to Page 1](#)

SSC NOLA Personnel Become LSS Black Belt Certified



Rod Smith (left), SPAWAR Deputy Commander presents Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Training Certificates to Janet Knauer and Shandon Davis from the SSC New Orleans at a ceremony held on November 4 at SPAWAR Headquarters, San Diego.

Shandon Davis and Janet Knauer, members of the SSC New Orleans Engineering Process Division, completed the final phase of the three-tiered Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Black Belt Training the week of October 31, 2005.

LSS is a rigorous and disciplined methodology that utilizes tools, data, and statistical analysis to eliminate waste, non-value added activities, and reduce variation and improve an organization's operational capability and practices in regards to cost, schedule, and performance.

Davis and Knauer are now certified LSS Black Belts and will serve as full time project leaders and LSS trainers within the SPAWAR enterprise and the SSC New Orleans. This training will also enable them to assist SPAWAR and the SSC New Orleans in attaining the goals of reducing the cost of doing business, improving productivity and efficiency, and increasing overall customer satisfaction.

Resource Information (continued)

Universities

Delgado Community College - Classes to return in Spring

Our Lady of Holy Cross College – Classes resume January 7, 2006

Tulane University to resume classes January 2006

Loyola University to resume classes January 2006

University of New Orleans – Holding class in their Jefferson Parish location on Causeway Blvd.

University of New Orleans Lakefront Campus to open January 2006

Elementary Schools

Ben Franklin Elementary School – Reopened November 28, 2005

Lusher K-12 in partnership with Tulane University Opening January 17, 2006

Lusher's Middle School will relocate to the pre K Alcee Fortier High School

St Alphonsus 2001 Constance New Orleans Reopened December 1, 2005 (504) 525-9533

Student registration

Student Registration occurs through December 22.

Registration for the following five charter schools which are scheduled to open on December 14, 2005 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.:

Martin Behrman Elementary 715 Opelousas, Algiers

Dwight D Eisenhower 3700 Tall Pines Dr, Algiers

Alice M Harte Elementary 5300 Berkley, Algiers

O Perry Walker Senior High 2832 General Meyer, Algiers

Edna Karr Senior High 3332 Huntlee St, Algiers

[Continued](#)

Resource Information (continued)

School Web Sites

Archdioces of New Orleans - <http://www.arch-no.org/>
(click on the Catholic Schools link in the Archdiocesan News column on the right)

Jefferson Parish - <http://www.jpss.k12.la.us/>

Orleans Parish - <http://www.nops.k12.la.us> and
www.alvarezandmarsalnops.com/

Plaquemines Parish - <http://www.ppsb.org/>

St. Bernard Parish - <http://www.stbernard.k12.la.us/>

St. Charles Parish - <http://www.stcharles.k12.la.us/>

St. John Parish- <http://www.stjohn.k12.la.us/>

St. Tammany Parish- http://www.stpsb.org/hurr_archive.html

Housing Information for New Orleans and surrounding cities

Properties for sale or rent: A specific area can be searched by city or zip at <http://www.realtor.com/Default.asp?poe=realtor> or contact Craigslist at: <http://neworleans.craigslist.org/>

Internet Service

The New Orleans Libraries are offering free internet services

Main Library (City Hall) 219 Loyola 11a.m. - 3p.m.

Hubbel Branch (Algiers Point) 725 Pelican Ave noon - 4 p.m.

Nix Branch 1401 So Carrollton Ave 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

UTILITIES

Louisiana Public Service Commission: www.lpsc.org

Atmos Energy: (800) 621-1867

BellSouth: (877) 737-2478. For service updates, go to <http://www.bellsouth.com/community/hurricane/index.html>

Cleco: (800) 622-6537

Cox Communications: (504) 304-8444 or (888) 822-5151. For service updates, go to <http://www.cox.com/louisiana/katrina.asp>

Entergy: (800) 368-3749. For restoration updates, go to www.entropy-neworleans.com/NOLA/storms/katrina.asp

Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans: (504) 529-2837, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Contractors

Check if a contractor is licensed in Louisiana at the State Licensing Board for Contractors Web site, <http://www.lslbc.louisiana.gov/>, or call (225) 765-2301.

Better Business Bureau: Baton Rouge, (225) 346-5222; Lafayette, (337) 981-3497

EPA

Information from the Environmental Protection Agency's response team to Hurricane Katrina: <http://www.epa.gov/katrina>

Hotline for hazardous waste pickup: (800) 401-1327

FEMA

<http://www.fema.gov/> or (800) 621-3362, (TTY 1 (800) 462-7585)

For a list of FEMA disaster recovery center locations, go to <http://www.sba.gov/> disaster and click on "Locations to Receive SBA Help."

The deadline to apply for disaster aid has been extended to January 11, 2006.

FEMA's housing referral service: (800) 762-8740

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. offers information on accessing your bank accounts, lost records, ATM cards, direct deposits or reaching your bank: (877) 275-3342.

GENERAL RESOURCES

Louisiana's official Web site for dissemination of information about hurricanes Katrina and Rita is <http://www.katrina.louisiana.gov/>

The United Way and VIA LINK call center for those with needs, questions or offers to help is 211 or (800) 749-2673.